

# Lupe Fiasco will headline this year's SpringFest concert

*Boston-based band, Bad Rabbits, to open for the concert on April 25*

By Bruno B. F. Faviero

This year's SpringFest headliner will be hip hop artist Lupe Fiasco, accompanied by opener Bad Rabbits, a Boston-based funk rock and R&B band.

The UA Events Committee is spending \$130,000 on the concert, backed by the SAO, with \$75,000 going to Lupe Fiasco. The concert is on Saturday, April 25, from 9 to 11 p.m. in the Johnson Ice Rink, and tickets will go on sale April 1 for \$10 during the pre-sale period.

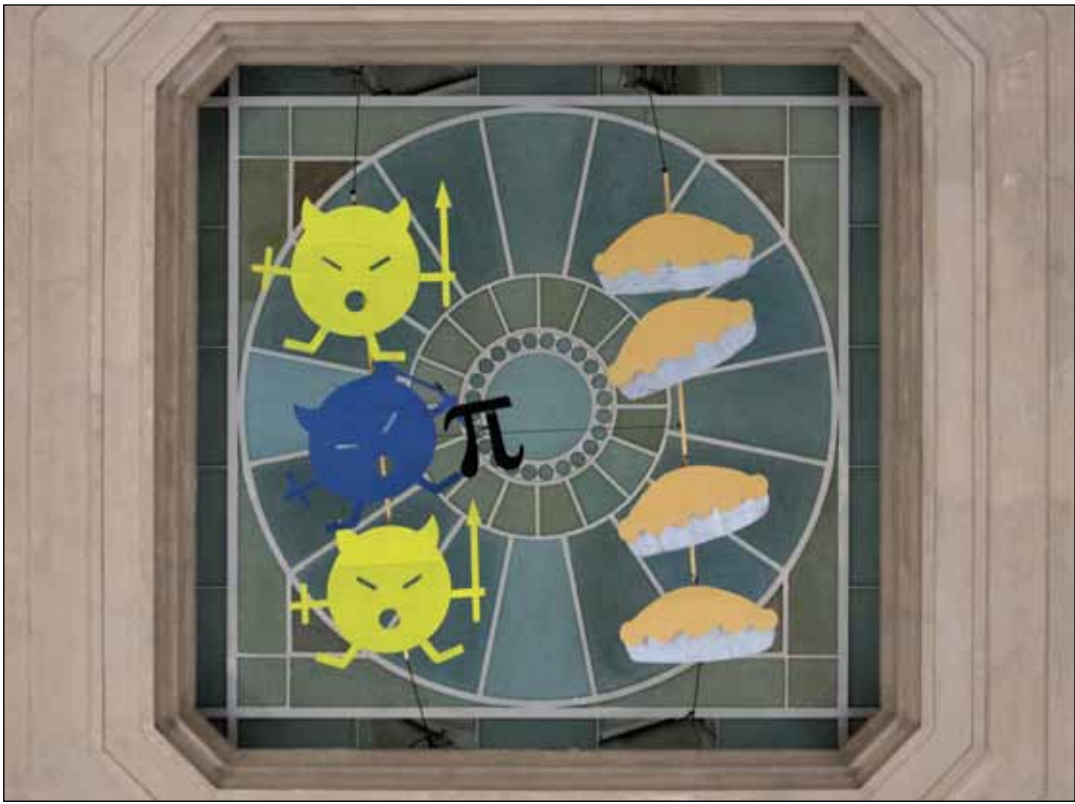
"I guess I'm okay with it," Jitesh V. Maiyuran '18 said of the choice of artist, "even though Lupe Fiasco

wasn't as big as he was years ago."

Organizers Divya M. Shanmugam '17 and Raichelle J. Aniceto '16 tried to build up excitement for the artist reveal by sending out hints over Snapchat, which students accessed by taking pictures of QR codes placed on posters around campus. "I'll go around campus and hear people say who they've narrowed it down to, or who they're sure it is," Shanmugam said. "It's exciting to hear people talking about it."

According to Shanmugam, one of the most popular questions they

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VIVIAN HU—THE TECH

A hack appeared in the Lobby 7 skylight this past weekend with an accompanying banner reading "π in the sky" in honor of Pi Day.

# 1,467 students admitted to Class of 2019

*Admission rate increases from 7.7 to 8.0 percent, a first at MIT since 2003*

By Jennifer Switzer

STAFF REPORTER

MIT offered admission to 1,467 students out of the 18,306 who applied to be members of the class of 2019, making this year's admission rate 8.0 percent. This is an increase from last year's 7.7 percent and marks the first time the rate has gone up since 2003's admissions cycle, when 16.4 percent of applicants were admitted.

Although the target class size increased from 1,050 to 1,100, according to Dean of Admissions Stuart Schmill, slightly fewer students applied than last year, when the admissions office received 18,356 applicants. According to the MIT Common Data set, the number of applicants had been increasing fairly steadily before this year.

Of the 1,467 admitted students, 625, or 42.6 percent, were early action admits. This number has not

changed much from last year, when 43.1 percent of the Class of 2018 was admitted early.

Of the 18,306 applicants this admissions cycle, 3.6 percent, or 652 students, were offered a spot on the waitlist. Students who choose to remain on the waitlist may be offered admission in May if MIT has not yet met its target class size. Last year 28 out of the 555 students accepting a spot on the waitlist were offered admission.

This year's admitted students represent 67 countries and over 1,000 schools, according to Schmill. Women make up 48 percent of the class, 25 percent identify as an underrepresented minority, and 17 percent will be from the first generation in their family to go to college.

"By all measures it is an enormously talented group of students," Schmill wrote in an email to *The*

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## IN SHORT

Next week (March 23-27) is Spring Break. Enjoy your week off!

**Fall 2015 housing intentions are due March 30.** All students who are currently living on campus and who are eligible to remain on campus next semester must complete a renewal or cancellation form by then, or pay a \$250 fee.

Send news information and tips to [news@tech.mit.edu](mailto:news@tech.mit.edu).

# Activist Temple Grandin discusses attitudes toward autism at event

*Grandin: 'Half the kids here' at MIT are likely on autism spectrum*

By Sanjana Srivastava

STAFF REPORTER

MIT and institutions like it should reject the stigma surrounding autism and recognize it as a difference rather than a detriment, autism activist Temple Grandin told an audience on campus Monday.

Grandin, born in Boston and now an animal science professor at Colorado State University, could not speak at all at age two and had many signs of severe autism. In the film "Temple Grandin," in which Grandin is played by Claire Danes, a doctor recommends that Grandin's mother put her in an asylum, and her mother refuses, choosing instead to put her in therapy.

In reality, Grandin's family wanted her to be institutionalized, reflecting the 1950s attitude toward mental differences. These details were left out of the movie to protect her family, but Grandin attributes her suc-

cessful start in life to her mother and a neurologist at Boston Children's Hospital named Dr. Bronson Crothers, who directed Grandin's mother to a therapy center. Many years later, Grandin has received several honors and awards for her work.

"Half the kids here" at MIT are most likely on the autism spectrum, according to Grandin. "People don't want to get diagnosed because it makes them feel damaged," she said in an interview with *The Tech*.

The reality is that autism is a continuum, Grandin said. She recalled being asked questions about how to solve problems for autistic children in classrooms, and her response was that there isn't a single solution for all autistic children.

During the question-and-answer portion of Grandin's talk at the Media Lab titled "Helping Different Kinds of Minds Succeed," she refused to answer a question about how to help an autistic student focus

on diagrams shown in class until she was given more details about the child's personality.

Autism and other disorders like anxiety or depression are single variables, she said, but people often focus on a diagnosis so much that "it's becoming their whole identity." Grandin identified a "handicap mentality" that parents, mentors, and peers often place on autistic people. This mentality ignores all other facets of their life: "Were they doing badly in school? Maybe they have no friends."

The opposite reaction, simply ignoring mental differences, is equally problematic, she said. When visiting a large company in Silicon Valley, Grandin recalled that a human resources representative said, "We know they're on the spectrum; we just don't talk about it."

According to Grandin, the

Temple Grandin, Page 3



DANIEL MIRNY—THE TECH

Gabriel A. Alba-Rivera '17 retells a story last Friday night during a performance for an IAP stand-up comedy course.

## NEXT HOUSE DISPENSES WITH PAPER TOWEL PLANS

Stark dissent among residents. **NEWS, p. 2**

## YOUNG GURU SPEAKS AT MIT

Rapper gives first lecture in MIT's "Hip Hop Speaker Series." **NEWS, p. 2**

## CYBERSECURITY TALKS

New initiatives and cybersecurity course established. **NEWS, p. 3**



## SCHUMANN, SHAKE-SPEARE, AND CINDERELLA, OH MY

Catch up with arts this week. **ARTS, p. 7**

## CO-ED GREEK LIFE AT MIT

Should there be more co-ed Greek organizations on campus? **OPINION, p. 4**

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# UA Events Comm. considers hosting activities all week

*UA rejects proposals for campus-wide events, including dessert night*

SpringFest, from Page 1

are asked is: “Why don’t we have an outdoor concert?”

“It’s been considered,” Shanmugam said, but “it would be pretty much impossible.” Shanmugam cited the costs associated with the security and production of such an event, in addition to noise considerations and Cambridge laws, as prohibitive.

“I would like to see SpringFest be a big deal on this campus,” said Shanmugam, “I’d like to make SpringFest just as an exciting event for people to go to [as Ring Premiere].”

Shanmugam said that they also had planned to turn this year’s SpringFest into a week-long series of campus-wide activities. An Undergraduate Association Council

vote on Wednesday night rejected almost all the planned additions.

The rejected UA events committee proposal included events like a sushi night, a dessert night at Finale, and a burger night at establishments across Boston, alongside events run by other student groups such as the Fierce Forever drag show and the SaveTFP carnival.

The costs would have amounted to \$20,000, with funding provided almost entirely by the UA.

“We have been struggling for funding,” Shanmugam said, “and it’s in our opinion that we can use this money effectively to create a really fun atmosphere on campus. Focusing more on weeklong events and focusing on the importance of SpringFest to the undergraduate community will do more in building our community.”

## Young Guru defends record companies in lecture at MIT

Gimel Androus Keaton, the audio engineer, record producer, and DJ better known by his stage name “Young Guru,” delivered a lecture at MIT on Mar. 6 in which he discussed the impact of new technologies on music and other creative industries.

Currently an artist-in-residence at the University of Southern California’s Thornton School of Music, Young Guru has worked with rapper Jay-Z for over a decade and has been involved in the careers of musicians like Beyonce, Ludacris, Rihanna, and Mariah Carey.

During the nearly two-hour talk, he expressed concerns about the future of the music industry.

“How do new people get in and break through this noise of the Internet?” he asked. “At the same time that it gave us power and control, it also gave the power and control to everyone.”

In defense of record companies, he argued the need for filters, aggregators, and experts, as opposed to crowd intelligence,

drawing parallels to trends affecting mid-entry positions in the service and healthcare industries.

Young Guru credited his venture into music to his “incredible parents,” who supported his decision to pursue music instead of basketball. He also addressed media stereotypes of hip-hop.

When asked what tool he would develop if he had a team of MIT students, Young Guru said that he would like to perfect 360-degree sound, which he predicted would have huge impacts on virtual reality technologies for video games and movies.

The lecture, titled “Young Guru: Design and Destruction,” was the first in the “Hip Hop Speaker Series” organized by the Arts at MIT and TapTape, a music start-up founded at MIT in 2014. Moderated by Ian Condry, head of the foreign languages and literatures department at MIT, the event marked the first time Young Guru has spoken at MIT.

—Angela Leong

## T.F.P. Next House wrapped up in bathroom paper towel controversy

After students petitioned against paper towels in bathrooms, Next House is tearing up plans to install dispensers over spring break.

The dormitory has not had paper towels in its bathrooms for years, but when its new house manager announced they would be rolled out soon, a student group called NextSustain argued that the environmental impact would not be worth it.

“Paper towels often account for 20–40% of the waste volume of dorms that have them,” the group’s petition said, citing *The New York Times*.

Other students had previously asked for the dispensers, according to Next House’s area director, Jimmy Doan, who notified students Wednesday that the project would be held off in light of the petition.

“As a house team, we have a responsibility to hear from all students on this issue,” he wrote. “A meeting will be held after Spring Break to openly share your concerns and thoughts on this topic.”

Student leaders discussed Sunday whether people haven’t been washing their hands enough because of the lack of paper towels, according to meeting minutes of the Next House Executive Board. They also discussed whether janitors would refill dispensers often enough, and whether the dispensers would have an effect on total waste at all given that some students dry their hands on their own paper towels anyway.

“We support a counterproposal for hooks in the bathrooms so that people can hang their own hand towels if they want to,” NextSustain wrote to residents.

The issue also sparked a debate on the next-forum mailing list about transparency and student involvement in decision-making processes.

*T.F.P. is a new series about, well, T.F.P. Forward your mailing list dramas to [news@tech.mit.edu](mailto:news@tech.mit.edu).*

—Leon Lin

# Class of 2019 was admitted 3/14/15, on “Super Pi Day”

*Technical issues with admissions site caused some decision delays*

Class of 2019, from Page 1

*Tech.* “We are very excited to welcome them to campus.”

MIT expected to increase admission rates through 2014 after Maseeh Hall reopened in 2011, according to Schmill. The closure of Bexley Hall and fluctuations in the number of students living on campus, however, prevented admission rates from increasing until this year.

“One of the factors in determining class size is housing capacity,” Schmill said. “Housing’s occupancy forecast takes into consideration how many students graduate and how many are expected to continue in the campus housing.”

This year’s admissions decision date fell on a once-in-a-century “super Pi Day,” with the first five digits of Pi, 3.1415, being reflected in the date, 3/14/15. Admissions decisions, which are normally released at 6:28 p.m., were set to be released at 9:26 a.m. as a nod to the next three digits of Pi, 3.1415926.

Minutes before 9:26, however, the admissions website decisions.

mit.edu experienced technical difficulties, causing many applicants to miss out on the anticipated “Pi minute” as they found “Database connection error” where their decisions should have been.

According to Schmill, there was “a technical issue related to the configuration of the web server.”

Or as assistant director of admissions and MIT admissions blogger Chris Peterson put it, “the once-in-a-century alignment of Super Pi Day appears to have fired a cosmic EMP directly into the heart of our server farm.”

Open thread discussions on the admissions blog page reflected the frustration that many students felt at having to wait to see their decision. Comments ranged from angry to amusing, with one commenter asking, “What did Caltech do this time?”

Schmill said that MIT is working to remedy the problem. “Going forward, we plan to reconfigure the web server environment to correct this issue and ensure a more robust system.”



CHRISTOPHER A. MAYNOR—THE TECH

A tree stump sits in front the Student Center last year. Creating one ton of paper towels requires the destruction of 17 trees, according to NextSustain.

# ELLIPSIS TRIO

SATURDAY  
MAR 21  
7:30

PIANO TRIOS  
by Charles Ives, Igor Iwanek,  
and Arthur Foote



Killian Hall, MIT 160 Memorial Dr., Cambridge, MA

[ellipsistrio.com](http://ellipsistrio.com)

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Enterprise Poets Prize in Imagining a Future

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WEATHER

# Boston sets new all-time seasonal snowfall record

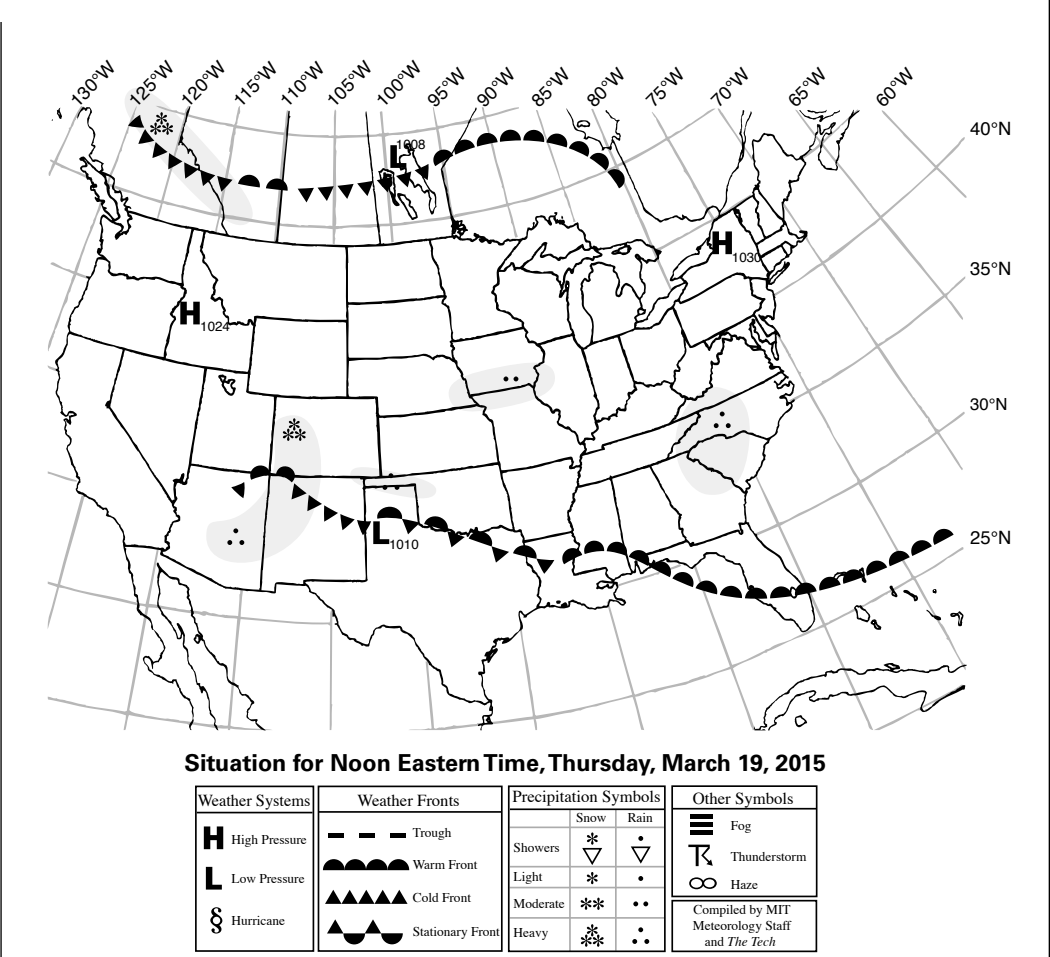
By Casey Hilgenbrink  
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

Big news! As of Sunday night, members of the MIT community can proudly proclaim that they lived through Boston’s snowiest winter on record. Sunday’s snowfall brought the seasonal total to 108.6 inches, beating the previous record of 107.6 set in the winter of 1995-1996. Congratulations! Today, clear and cold conditions prevail as a high pressure moves into the region. Expect gusty winds and a high of around 32°F (0°C). On Friday, a low pressure system develops

off the coast of the southeastern U.S., bringing a chance of precipitation to the region Friday night through Saturday. There is still considerable uncertainty with this storm; depending on which track it eventually takes, Boston could see either just a glancing blow with light or no rain/snow, several inches of wet snow, or (more unlikely) a mostly rain event. Whatever the outcome, the storm moves out by Saturday evening, with a cold front following close behind; expect unseasonably cold conditions to return by the end of the weekend and into early next week.

Extended Forecast

**Today:** Clear, with a high of 32°F (0°C). Northwest wind around 15 mph, with gusts up to 30 mph.  
**Tonight:** Mostly clear, with a low of 19°F (-7°C). Northwest wind at 5 to 10 mph, with gusts up to 25 mph.  
**Tomorrow:** Partly sunny, with a high near 35°F (2°C). Westerly changing to southwesterly wind at 5 mph. Chance of rain/snow.  
**Saturday:** Overcast, with a high in the mid 40s°F (4°C). Chance of rain/snow.  
**Sunday:** Mostly sunny, with a high in the mid 30s°F (2°C).



## New cybersecurity initiatives launched

MIT launched three cybersecurity initiatives at the Cybersecurity at MIT event last Thursday. Cybersecurity@CSAIL is a development initiative meant to streamline security rather than respond to cyberattacks individually. The MIT Cybersecurity and Internet Policy Research Initiative (CIPI) aims to improve regulations and policy surrounding cyber security. The Interdisciplinary Consortium for Improving Critical Infrastructure Cybersecurity ((IC)3), headquartered in the MIT Sloan School of Management, focuses on making it easier to manage and operate security systems, according to the program’s literature. The launch event included remarks from President L. Rafael Reif, Vice President for Research Maria Zuber, and several CSAIL and Sloan professors.

Reif discussed MIT’s long history with cutting-edge cybersecurity research, noting that developers at MIT had been securing computer systems before the public realized it was necessary. “There aren’t many challenges bigger than cybersecurity,” said CSAIL director Daniela L. Rus. The hour of talks were followed by a gallery of posters presenting research from Cybersecurity@CSAIL, (IC)3, Lincoln Laboratory, and the Sociotechnical Systems Research Center. MIT Professional Education advertised an online course called “Cybersecurity: Technology, Application, and Policy” that covers technology and challenges in the field alongside the new initiatives. The launch event was held at 9 a.m. in and outside the Kirsch Auditorium (32-123). The online class will be held in Fall 2015, Winter 2016, and Spring 2016. —Sanjana Srivastava

# Perhaps half at MIT are on the autism spectrum, activist tells audience at talk

*Like the Fukushima disaster, the Stata Center is an example of a failure of collaboration between people with different learning styles, says Grandin*

Temple Grandin, from Page 1

point is that “it’s all different ways of thinking,” and because the world is not designed for all of them, ignoring these differences shuts people out. When asked during Q-and-A if openly addressing a mental difference would make it more difficult for a child to feel comfortable, Grandin said that it would ultimately be beneficial, because diagnosis would be the only way for them to be allowed to perform to the best of their unique abilities. Grandin found that the optimal balance was in recognizing all different ways of thinking as acceptable and valuable as well as allowing them to complement each other. For example, the fact that autistic people are often exceptionally good at certain things and exceptionally bad at others can be chan-

neled usefully. For Grandin, this duality is in her exceptionally visual brain, which is crucial to her design work, and the panic attacks that have plagued her for years, which she handles with extremely low doses of Prozac. Another set of complements that Grandin identified was different types of problem solving and learning. She divided people into mathematical or “pattern” thinkers (which she felt MIT values most), visual thinkers like her, and “word” thinkers. Giving the example of the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster, Grandin said that putting the electric regulatory equipment underground near the sea stood out to her immediately as hazardous. “There’s no way I would have made that mistake,” said Grandin. “I can visualize how things can break.” “I used to think it was because

people were stupid,” she said. “I’ve now learned there’s different ways of thinking. I can’t design a nuclear reactor.” She added that both types of thinking were imperative. Grandin also identified the Stata Center as a failure of collaboration — while very beautiful, she said, it “leaks — not very functional.” Upon entering her interview with *The Tech*, Grandin voiced her excitement about paper snowflake cut-outs hanging in the Media Lab. They excited her because they were “hands-on,” a project that she did as a child in the 1950s. During the interview, Grandin also highlighted the need for constructive physical work. “People say I’m an old fogey,” she admitted, “but I’m not seeing good outcomes [from screens].” She suggested that the Media Lab bring in broken computers and defunct technology and see what could be built with it.

Both in blanket diagnoses and in general learning, Grandin defined the problem to be that “people tend to overgeneralize.” She recalled that the provost of Texas A&M told her that brilliant students will join the math program but be terrible at estimating. According to Grandin, politicians whose experience is in political science education and government internships and not in the issues they are writing policies about are problematic in the same way. “Too many things are becoming abstract theory,” she said, falling squarely on the practical engineering side of STEM. Along with her talk on Monday, the Media Lab hosted a discussion between her and Media Arts and Sciences professor Rosalind Picard on Tuesday. Her movie, which Grandin considers highly authentic, was screened last Wednesday.

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# Spring sports arrive at MIT

*National sportscasters grateful to abandon football talk*

**By Michael Beautyman**

With the spring sports season underway at MIT, sportscasters nationwide have issued a collective sigh of relief that they will no longer be required to make references to incredible performances by teams dubbed “Engineers.” MIT Football’s historic season this past fall pushed news outlets to their limit, as reporters were forced to address the confusing departure from the social order of athletes and mathletes. The football team’s undefeated regular season and first post-season victory in program history confused even local papers, which traditionally have

been more nuanced at handling collegiate sports achievements in the intellectual hotbed of Boston.

"But this semester, the forces of mass and energy are being applied outside the classroom ..." read one particularly astute article from CBS News, simultaneously confirming a complete lack of understanding of both physics and football. Other news outlets defended the team's legitimacy, such as when FoxSports pointed out that this was a team that played like any other out there, "with no fear that the Engineers might re-snap their taped-together glasses, unbuckle their suspenders or drop their calculators in the

process.”

"It seemed both relevant and appropriate," said some editor somewhere, "to make light of the fact that these nerds understand their bodies, too. What's that word ... proprio-something?"

Already, sports reporters have expressed relief that MIT is returning to being “a great school ... that also has some sports?” Indeed, Tech teams and athletes will return to their normal performances, like that of current junior and two-time NCAA Track and Field national champion Cimran Virdi or 2015 triple-All-American Maryann Gong. None of the recipients of the other 701 All-American

honors in the past 13 years were available for comment. The 13 national champions in 20 events since 2000 were also busy, supporting alum Wyatt Ubellacker in his attempt to become the 32nd MIT graduate Olympian.

For more on the Institute's lackluster athletics, you can contact the men's track or cross-country teams, which have combined to win 37 of the last 39 league championships.

MIT athletes, may the forces of mass and energy be with you this spring season.

*Michael Beautyman is a 2017 candidate for a naval engineer's degree and a master of science in mechanical engineering.*

# On reaching out to one another

### By Randall Davis

*Editor's note: Last Thursday, Professor Davis spoke to his students in 6.835, Intelligent Multimodal User Interfaces. His remarks are transcribed here with permission for the rest of the student body.*

I've left some time in today's class so we have a few minutes to switch gears and talk about recent events at MIT.

Let me start by saying that I've been here for a couple of decades, and without question, the past two years and in particular the past two months have been the most difficult period I've seen in MIT's recent history. The events around the Marathon bombing and the recent suicides have sorely tested the social fabric of this place.

This has been a dreadful time; this isn't the way it's supposed to be. That's easy to say, but sometimes it helps simply to recognize that and say it aloud.

It also helps to be honest about the nature of our culture. This is a wonderful place and it's a difficult place. It's wonderful to be surrounded by such interesting, intelligent, and talented people. It is difficult to be surrounded by such interesting, intelligent, and talented people. We're all overachievers and it's difficult to quiet the voice that constantly compares us to others.

We are all subject to the imposter syndrome (faculty as well, by the way), fearful that our entry here was a mistake, one that

will inevitably be revealed. That fear is what keeps you from asking questions in class: you're sitting there absolutely convinced that you're the only one who didn't understand something in a lecture, and if you ask about it the entire class will sit there smirking at your ignorance. In truth, most of the time 30 percent of the class is confused right along with you, and when you ask the question, they all look vastly relieved. Trust me, I see that look on so many faces, that unmistakable "oh good, someone else didn't understand and asked the question." You are not alone. (And by the way, if 30 percent of you didn't understand, it's because I did a lousy job of explaining.)

**The problem with our culture is that it has a truly unbounded appetite for accomplishment.**

Remember the other day in class when I asked a question for which the right answer was “I don’t know”? That wasn’t an accident. As I said then, no one here ever wants to say “I don’t know,” and that’s a problem. Learn that it’s OK to say that.

Another slant on our culture comes from humor — they say you can tell a lot about

a culture from its jokes. Here's one I heard when I first came to MIT. A little background: in a single year — 1905 — Einstein published four papers: the first proposed the idea of quanta of energy, the second explained Brownian motion, the third proposed the special theory of relativity, and the fourth proposed the equivalence of mass and energy ( $E = mc^2$ ). Each of them individually was world-changing; he wrote all four in one year.

The joke says: Around 1915 someone proposes to bring Einstein to MIT, but there's some resistance from the faculty. After hearing about his accomplishments someone asks "OK, so four good papers. But what's he done *lately*?"

The problem with our culture is that it has a truly unbounded appetite for accomplishment. This is great — we are never satisfied with yesterday's results. This is wearying — we're never satisfied.

So what can we do? We need to change the culture. We can start small by looking out for one another, reaching out to one another.

I learned this firsthand a while back when I took a course in winter camping and winter survival. A group of 14 of us spent two weeks in the Wind River Range in Wyoming in February, traveling on army surplus cross country skis, carrying 65-pound backpacks, sleeping in tents with the temperature routinely 20–25 below at night. It was a most wonderful and remarkable experience, to be out in the middle of the woods in winter.

It was also dangerous — the most pressing problem was hypothermia, the situation where you're not just cold, but losing body heat faster than you can replace it. It's life-threatening — slide far enough down that hill and you die.

We learned to watch one another, and ask a simple question: "Are you cold?" If the answer was an emphatic, "You're goddamned right, I'm freezing my butt off," that was fine. If the answer was a vacant stare, that was trouble. Time to stop traveling and get that person warmed up (lots of hot sweet tea).

We need to do the same thing here, because depression is like that. We all get down a little from time to time, but if you slide too far down that hill, if you keep sliding down faster than you can get up, that's life threatening.

We need to watch out for one another and ask, "Are you OK?" Then listen carefully to the answer. If the answer is an emphatic litany of complaints about the amount of work that's piled up, that's one thing. But if you sense a quiet despair, it's time to act. Call the health service's 24-hour line (3-4481) and talk to them about the situation. They can guide you about next steps for helping someone.

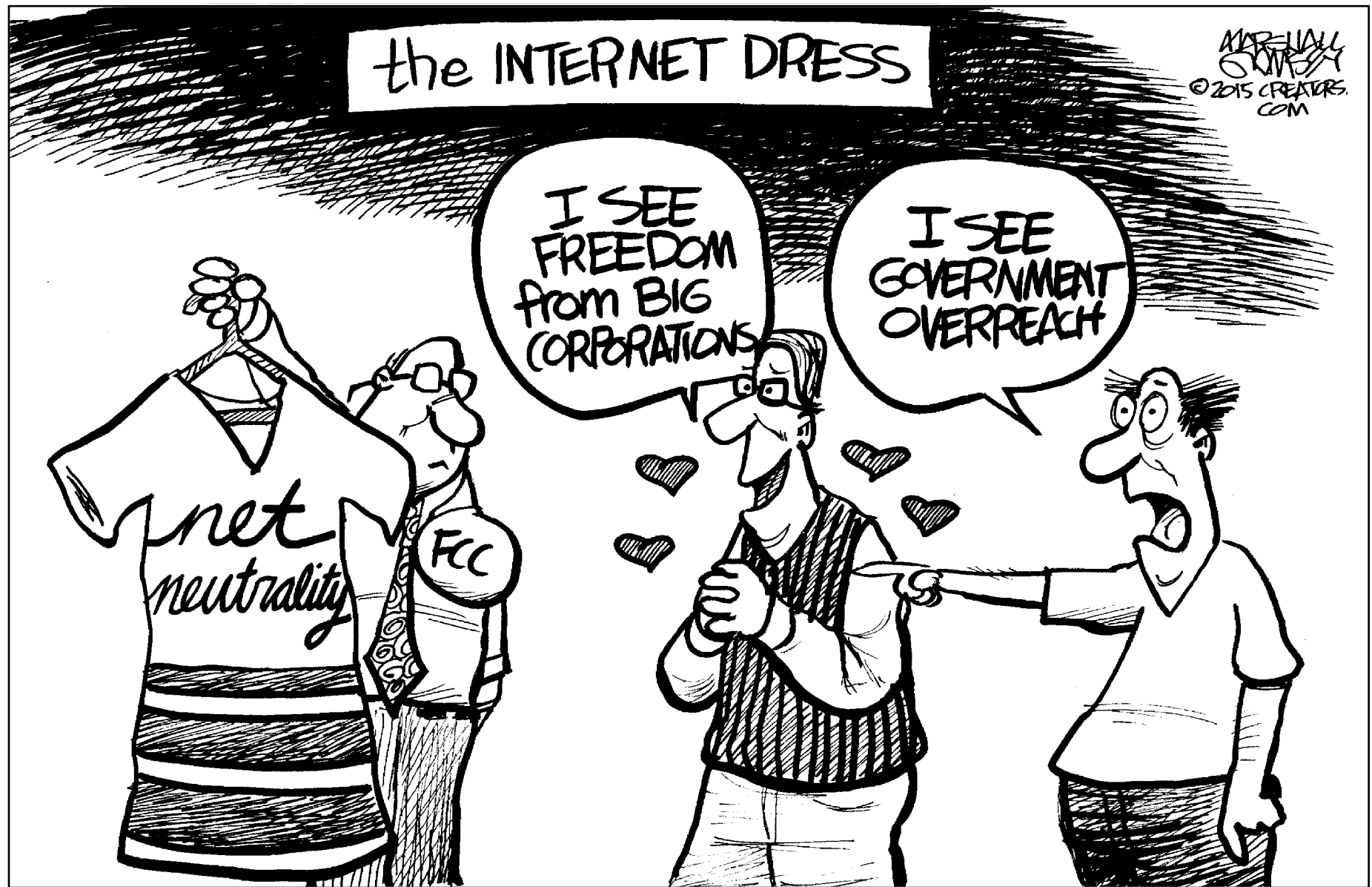
We have to reach out to one another and care about one another. Just asking is a good start; it lets us know we're not alone. And that by itself is a very good thing.

*Randall Davis is a professor in the department of electrical engineering and computer science.*

## CORRECTIONS

An article published last Thursday about the death of Christina Tournant '18 misstated its authors. The article was written by a group of *Tech* staff, not just William Navarre and Katherine Nazemi.

Due to an editing error, an op-ed published last Thursday about mental health and MIT culture incorrectly referred to deaths of the past several months as having occurred last year.







Performers play the classical sounds of Pakistan at Rawaj on Saturday night.



Nikita K. Kodali '17 models a Pakistani outfit during the fashion show portion of Rawaj.

# RAWAJ

Photography by  
Alexander C. Bost



Members of PaksMIT Exec dance during the show.



Tanya Talker '16 dances with MIT Chamak during Rawaj.

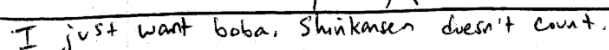
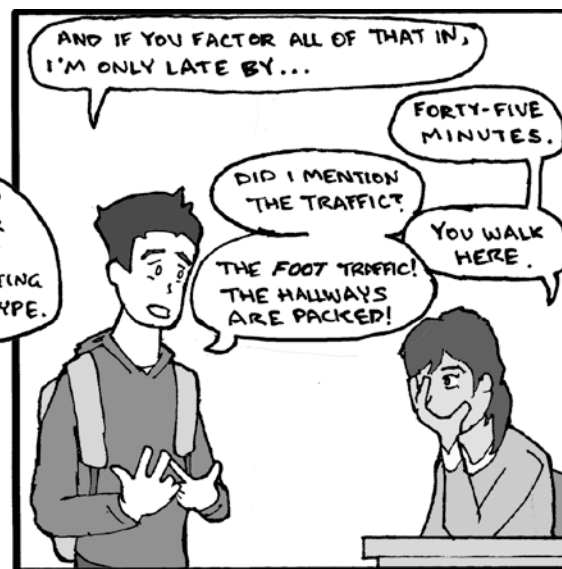
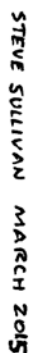


A young girl plays on the stage while dinner is served.









WWW.PHDCOMICS.COM

## Solution, page 11

			9	1			5	7
7	1						8	
	9		8					1
			6	8				
5	6		4		9		2	3
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2					4		7	
	7						4	2
8	4			2	6			

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column, row, and 3 by 3 grid contains exactly one of each of the digits 1 through 9.

## Solution, page 11

12x			360x		
20+		5÷			2
			144x		
	5+	90x		4	
15x			1-		2-
	48x			5	

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column and row contains exactly one of each of the numbers 1–6. Follow the mathematical operations for each box.

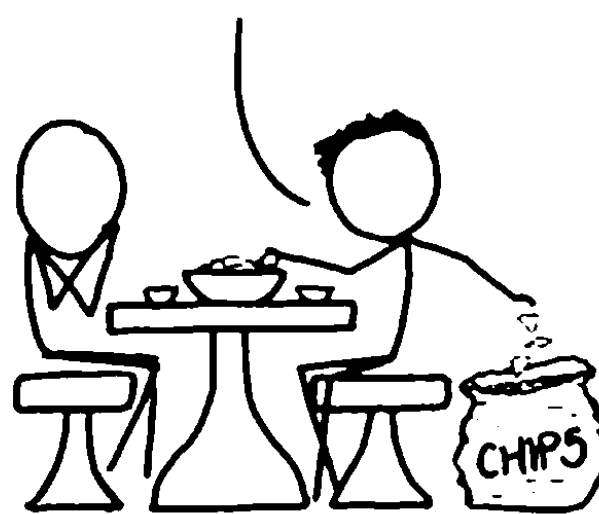




**A WEBCOMIC OF ROMANCE,  
SARCASM, MATH, AND LANGUAGE**

by Randall Munroe

THEY'RE THE ONES  
GIVING CHIPS AWAY!  
/ IF THEY DON'T SEE THE  
ARBITRAGE POTENTIAL,  
SUCKS FOR THEM.



IN A DEEP SENSE, SOCIETY  
FUNCTIONS ONLY BECAUSE WE  
GENERALLY AVOID TAKING THESE  
PEOPLE OUT TO DINNER.

The invisible hand of the market never texts me back.

# Plane Geography by Melanie Miller

Solution, page 11

**ACROSS**

- 1 Reduce drastically
- 6 Probabilities
- 10 Copper-coated coin
- 14 Candymaker Willy
- 15 Minestrone, for instance
- 16 Gung-ho
- 17 Be a cast member of
- 18 In this location
- 19 Persistently pesters
- 20 Baseball manager's aide
- 23 "The Red, White and Blue"
- 24 Lose traction
- 25 Lee of Marvel Comics
- 28 Gold ingots, e.g.
- 31 Cola-bottle size
- 35 Prof's degree, often
- 36 Tiny amount
- 37 Confident poker phrase
- 38 Meeting's agenda item
- 41 Put faith in
- 42 Naval lockup
- 43 Bit of body art
- 44 Pre-adolescent
- 45 Windshield coloring
- 46 Kids' room clutter
- 47 Kudrow of Friends
- 49 Scratch up
- 51 Chicken/egg dilemma
- 58 Picnic spoiler
- 59 Cajun veggie
- 60 Share one's views
- 61 Shrek, for one

- 62 Charitable donation  
63 Vintage tune  
64 Woodland forager  
65 Not as much  
66 Trial runs

**DOWN**

- 1 Heavy blow
- 2 \_\_ Ness monster
- 3 Prefix for virus
- 4 Slalom slope
- 5 Ranch workers
- 6 Worker safety org.
- 7 Performs
- 8 Undue pressure
- 9 Tiny dot
- 10 Mountie, for one
- 11 Rescue mission, for short
- 12 Nearby, in poems
- 13 Scores by QBs
- 21 Large monkey
- 22 Offshore drilling structure
- 25 Hockey or handball
- 26 Sent flying
- 27 Bewilder
- 29 Explosive-regulating agcy.
- 30 Synagogue scholar
- 32 Connect with
- 33 Opinion piece
- 34 Gets some down time
- 36 Amusingly unexpected
- 37 Self-conscious question

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14						15					16			
17						18					19			
20					21					22				
			23					24						
25	26	27			28	29	30			31		32	33	34
35				36					37					
38			39					40						
41							42					43		
44						45					46			
			47		48				49	50				
	51	52					53	54				55	56	57
58					59					60				
61					62					63				
64					65					66				

- 39 Cosmetic in a pencil  
40 Vase with a pedestal  
45 Fishing gear  
46 Threefold  
48 Sand bar  
50 Going on, to Sherlock  
51 Hourly pay

- 52 Add to the team  
53 What fills sleeves  
54 Large-scale  
55 Clears (of)  
56 Huffy mood  
57 Golf pegs  
58 Curtain holder



# Norbert and me

A memoir of MIT from a member of the Class of '58

By Eugene Elander

My home in South Dayton (now Kettering), Ohio, seemed a long way away from the MIT campus in the fall of 1954. Living in the East Campus quadrangle, I was restless and homesick, and having trouble sleeping nights. This situation led me to take a part-time student job as switchboard operator for East Campus on the late night or graveyard shift, as it was called. If I were going to be up all night anyway, I might as well get paid.

From time to time, walking in the hallowed halls of MIT, I had noticed a short, rotund middle-aged man with thick glasses, reading a book while walking. He would sometimes have one hand extended with his index finger touching the wall, so that he would know where to turn without interrupting his reading. At first I found this occasional spectacle (pun intended) a bit bizarre, but no stranger than many other situations at MIT. This was the era in which students had disassembled an MG sports car and carried the pieces up to the roof of the quadrangle, where they were faultlessly reassembled as a prank on the owner. This was the era of the “mirror wars” when each side of the quad would detach dresser mirrors and aim them to catch the sun to maximum effect, heating up the opposite side of the quad to intolerable temperatures; the first side to run out screaming lost that game.

One night, as I plugged wires into my East Campus switchboard infrequently to connect calls from our students’ girlfriends, occasional parents, and fellow students, the short bearded man showed up in the dorm lobby and asked my name, which I provided. He replied that he was Professor Norbert Wiener and taught math at MIT while he was further developing his ideas on cybernetics. I had no idea what cybernetics meant, and told him so, and he

replied that cybernetics involved the pairing of man and machine, and would be the wave of the future in science. I must confess to being quite impressed.

After that initial meeting, Norbert Wiener came over to my switchboard frequently if irregularly. Sometimes, when I was busy with calls, I would have to ignore him, but since he always had a book with him, that was not a problem. Other times, we would talk for hours about everything under the sun — or under the moon and stars, to be more accurate. The one thing which Norbert would not talk about was himself and his family. Other than that area, nothing was off limits, and I never felt treated as a lowly undergrad. Rather, we were colleagues exploring the implications of cybernetics and many other areas for the future of humanity. All of this was a heady experience for me, and I learned considerably more than what I was learning in some science and engineering classes.

**He would walk with his finger touching the wall, so that he would know where to turn without interrupting his reading.**

On one occasion, I asked Norbert about his habit of reading while walking. He replied that he had heard of a story being circulated on campus about his being asked by a colleague if he had yet had lunch that day. Norbert asked the colleague which way he was heading, and the colleague replied that he was heading east. Norbert was supposed to have replied, “If I am heading east, then I have eaten lunch.” I asked him

if the story was true, and he responded that, either way, he liked the story. That was all he would say.

As my second year at MIT began, I was facing a dilemma regarding the ROTC (Reserve Officers’ Training Corps) requirement for all undergraduates at MIT. Being a land-grant university, which meant that once in the dim past it had taken federal funds, MIT required two years of ROTC of all students. A so-called loyalty oath was also required, which I had reluctantly signed as a freshman and which now had to be renewed. I had to state that I had never been a member of a long list of organizations, a list nobody bothered (nor had the time) to read through thoroughly. It further stated that I would not become a member of any organizations added to the list in the future, as they might be so-called communist front groups and therefore anathema to us loyal Americans.

I did not see how I could sign such an oath in good conscience, and further how I could know in advance that I would never join an unnamed organization which might be added. The more I thought about this problem, the more it bothered me, as if I refused to sign the oath, I was likely to be expelled from MIT as well as branded as disloyal — in those days, and even today, the kiss of death to my career plans. I stalled signing the oath and consulted with Norbert on his next late-night visit to the East Campus switchboard.

Norbert heard me out, unusual in itself as he much preferred talking to listening, and then said, “Eugene, had my father not left Europe long before the rise of Hitler, I would not be here today. Even so, being of Russian extraction, I have heard of the pogroms and other abuses of our people, once by the Czar, and now by the Communists. All of that starts with one wrongful action, then a few people who look the other way, then more and more who refuse to see the

truth or take action. Do not be one of those people. Stand on your conscience. We cannot let America turn into a fascist nation.”

**If I refused to sign the oath, I was likely to be expelled from MIT as well as branded as disloyal — the kiss of death to my career.**

So, I refused to sign the loyalty oath, first to Major Robbins, our ROTC commander, and then to the Dean of Students. I was threatened with expulsion and being reported to the FBI and “elsewhere” but I stood my ground. Meanwhile, I called my parents and their good friend Asher Bogin, a lawyer out in Dayton, Ohio, with civil rights credentials. Asher Bogin in turn contacted authorities at MIT, a contact to which I was not a party, to let them know that they had one hell of a fight on their hands over the loyalty oath, which he considered totally unconstitutional. Major Robbins then decided that my prior oath, the year before, could serve for the next year under these “special circumstances.” While I tried to retract that prior oath, I was told that there was no procedure for doing so.

Thus, I was able to remain at MIT. Had it not been for Norbert Wiener, though, I would never have challenged authority in this manner. But my real tribute to this man, whose expertise in mathematics and science were matched by his deep concern for humanity, is that I have been challenging authority ever since. Rest in peace, Norbert.

*Eugene Elander is a member of the Class of 1958.*

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AND  
JOIN  
THE  
TECH

# Gymnastics club hosts invitational

*Seto emerges MIT's best overall performer at Alumni Invitational*

By **Souparno Ghosh**  
*SPORTS EDITOR*

The MIT Gymnastics Club hosted the Alumni Invitational Gymnastics Meet on Saturday, March 14, at the DuPont Gymnasium at MIT.

William White '17 claimed top spot overall in the men's section on the back of consistent performances in each of the six categories. Brian Varga from the University of Vermont clinched the second spot while MIT alumnus Bernd Schoener PhD '00 finished third.

Ben Rudolph of Cambridge Community Gymnastics finished first in each of the four categories

he participated in (high bar, parallel bars, pommel horse, and rings).

Brandeis University, Manchester Community College, and Central Connecticut State University were all represented in the men's section.

Over in the women's section, University of Rhode Island clinched the top spot with stellar contributions from Mallory Moreau, Becca Griffin, and Morgan Matthieu. Cambridge Community Gymnastics and Sacred Heart University claimed second and third place overall respectively.

Kelsey Seto G emerged MIT's top overall performer while Lindsay Sanneman '14 of CSAIL clinched gold in the floor exercise category.

# Athletes earn All-America honors

*Viridi and Gong collect honors while placing first in their events*

By **Phil Hess**  
*DAPER STAFF*

MIT's Cimran Viridi '16 and Maryann M. Gong '17 highlighted MIT's performance at the NCAA Division III Indoor Track and Field Championships this past weekend, earning individual titles in the pole vault and 3,000-meter events, respectively. Both student-athletes collected All-America honors with their first-place performances.

Viridi, who won her second-consecutive pole vault championship, recorded a clear of 13-01.50. Westminster College's Marissa Kalsey also cleared the same height, but Viridi made her jump on her first attempt while Kalsey did not make it

until her third try, giving Viridi the win. With the title, Viridi became the first Engineer to win multiple championships in track and field.

Gong captured the 3,000-meter final, rushing past Cornell College sophomore Abrah Masterson during the final lap to seal the win. She crossed the finish line in 9:47.62 and collected her third All-America honor this weekend. Gong also recorded a third-place performance in the mile (4:57.42) and helped the MIT Distance Medley Relay team to a second-place finish with a time of 11:47.43.

MIT concluded the meet in fourth place with an overall team score of 34 points, improving on their mark of 22 points from a year ago. Tech also garnered seven All-America honors and two honorable mentions.

## Solution to Crossword

from page 9

SLASH	ODDS	CENT
WONKA	SOUP	AVID
ACTIN	HERE	NAGS
THIRDBASE	COACH	
USA	SKID	
STAN	BAR	LITER
PHD	IOTA	IRAISE
ORDEROF	BUSINESS	
RELYON	BRIG	TAT
TWEEN	TINT	TOYS
LISA	MAR	
WHICH	CAME	FIRST
RAIN	OKRA	OPINE
OGRE	ALMS	OLDIE
DEER	LESS	TESTS

## Solution to Sudoku

from page 8

6	3	8	9	1	2	4	5	7
7	1	2	5	4	3	9	8	6
4	9	5	8	6	7	2	3	1
3	2	4	6	8	1	7	9	5
5	6	1	4	7	9	8	2	3
9	8	7	2	3	5	1	6	4
2	5	6	1	9	4	3	7	8
1	7	9	3	5	8	6	4	2
8	4	3	7	2	6	5	1	9

## Solution to Techdoku

from page 8

1	6	2	4	3	5
4	3	5	1	6	2
6	5	1	3	2	4
2	1	3	5	4	6
5	4	6	2	1	3
3	2	4	6	5	1

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UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Thursday, March 19

Men's Lacrosse vs. Gordon College 4 p.m., Steinbrenner Stadium  
Women's Lacrosse vs. Gordon College 7 p.m., Steinbrenner Stadium

# Figure skating ends term with showcase

*Alumni also perform at exhibition*

By Souparno Ghosh  
SPORTS EDITOR

The MIT Figure Skating club hosted their annual figure skating exhibition this past Saturday, March 14, at the Johnson Athletic Center Ice Arena. This season-ending exhibition event witnessed a number of alumni performing alongside the current MIT figure skating team.



The highlight of the event was an opening breakdance in which all participating skaters performed. The exhibition was punctuated with both individual as well team compositions like the "Theater on Ice." For Ashley Chapin '15, a member of the MIT figure skating club, this showpiece is a unique event in that it is kept strictly non-competitive to allow choreographers and skaters of a wide range of skill level to actively participate and showcase their talents.



Sonya A. Das '18 serves the ball during last Friday's 9-0 win against Brandeis University.

## Do you wish your sport was covered?

Hello, Athletes, look at the sports page, now back to you, now back to the sports page, now back to you. Sadly, your sport isn't there, but if you started writing for *The Tech*, it could be. Look down, back up, where are you? You're on the front page. Anything is possible when you write for *The Tech*.

[sports@tech.mit.edu](mailto:sports@tech.mit.edu)

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